Revamping of Namrup HFC Unit

405. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) how much amount has been released for revamping the IInd unit of Namrup H.F.C. unit;

(b) what is the progress till now; and

(c) whether the Ministry has made any plan to bifurcate it from H.F.C. and form a new company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) An amount of 30.00 crore has so far been released for the ongoing revamp of all the units of Namrup complex of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC). The Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Contract has been awarded to Projects Development India Limited (PDIL) on a single point responsibility basis which has started the work on the project.

(c) The proposal for segregation of Namrup units from HFC to form a new company is to be submitted to the competent authority in the Government and thereafter for sanction of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction.

Fertilizer Pricing Policy

406. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are reviewing the fertilizer pricing policy in order to rein in the subsidy and initiate a phased deregulation of this sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) In keeping with the policy of economic liberalisation and reforms, all other varieties of fertilizers except urea have already been freed from price, movement and distribution control. The Government intend moving towards a deregulated regime in all the three types of fertilizers, that is, nitrogen, phosphatic and potassic, after taking into account its fiscal capacity on the one hand and making available fertilizers to the farmers at a reasonable price on the other. It is proposed to translate the intention of the Government into a concrete action plan by formulating a long term policy for the fertilizer sector which would include, interalia, the Government's decisions on the recommendations made by the High Powered Fertilizer Policy Review Committee which are being processed.